

(Continued from a previous page.)

religion eventually codified in the First Amendment. The exhibit contains items from various faiths from the 1630s to the 1840s. The Catholic display includes the iron cross made of ballast beams forged by the blacksmith for the Catholic colony of Maryland in 1634.

Also attracting attention is the chalice used by Archbishop John Carroll, S.J., the first Catholic bishop of the U.S. and cousin of Charles Carroll, the only Catholic signer of the Declaration of Independence. The chalice is unique in that it disassembles to be made into a saddle bell. Such chalices were used when Catholicism was persecuted in English Colonial America.

The exhibition runs until June 3, 2018. It can be viewed online at [americanhistory.si.edu/religion-in-early-america](http://americanhistory.si.edu/religion-in-early-america).

■ **Christmas Blessings!** — We wish all our Byzantine Catholic and Orthodox brothers and sisters who follow the Julian Calendar and are

celebrating Christmas today a most blessed and peaceful Feast of the Nativity. *Christ is born! Glorify Him!*

■ **Pray for Our Suffering Church** — Many Christian clergy, religious, and laity have been killed by Islamic radicals. Please pray for all those afflicted by these barbaric acts and for the conversion and forgiveness of the perpetrators. *Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory forever!*

■ **Christmas Blessings!** — We wish all our Byzantine Catholic and Orthodox brothers and sisters who follow the Julian Calendar and are celebrating Christmas today a most blessed and peaceful Feast of the Nativity. *Christ is born! Glorify Him!*

## Announcements

■ **Today's Liturgy Intention** — Today's Divine Liturgy is offered for the good intentions of our Mission Community during this New Year. May God grant us all peace, health, and happiness.

■ **Today's Commemorations** — Today is the Sunday after the Feast of the Theophany of Our Lord, which is celebrated annually on January 6 and commemorates the baptism of Jesus Christ in the Jordan.

This feast is often called the Epiphany or the Theophany, which mean the Holy Manifestation of the Divinity of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

One of the oldest feasts of the Eastern Church, it has been traced back to the beginning of the second century. The Western Church accepted this Great Feast from the Eastern Church in the third century.

On this date, January 7, we commemorate the Synaxis of St. John, the glorious Prophet, Precursor, and Baptist, who baptized our Lord Jesus Christ in the Jordan. The word "synaxis" comes from the word "synago" and means "gathering, assembly, reunion." It is exactly equivalent to the Latin "collecta" (from colligere), and corresponds to synagogue (synagoge), meaning the place of reunion. A synaxis is a religious assembly in honor of one or more persons or angels. On the day after a major feast, (the second day of the feast), we assemble again to honor one or more persons or angels who are associated with that feast.

■ **Mirovaniye and Blessing of Water** — In celebration of Epiphany/Theophany, we will bless water at the close of Divine Liturgy and have anointing (*mirovaniye*) and distribution of blessed bread. All are welcome to receive anointing and blessed bread. *Christ is baptized! In the Jordan!*

■ **Abstinence** — Friday, January 12, is a day of penance. The Byzantine Church prescribes abstaining from meat or performing an equivalent penance of charity.

## Epiphany of Our Lord Byzantine Catholic Church



### Montgomery County Mission

Mother of God Community School  
20501 Goshen Road  
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20879  
301-482-0282  
[www.eolmission.org](http://www.eolmission.org)

#### Our community...

was established in October 1996 to meet the spiritual needs of Byzantine Catholics living in northern Montgomery County, southern Frederick County, and adjoining areas.

#### We celebrate our faith...

in a diverse community. We welcome all, regardless of ethnic or religious background who are committed to develop a deeper understanding of the Christian faith expressed in the Byzantine tradition and spirituality, and who wish to pray and work towards the full communion of the Catholic and Orthodox Churches as sister Churches of the One Universal Church of Jesus Christ.

#### We continually resolve...

to gather in His Name, share the truth of our Faith, and proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ to everyone.

### Last Week's Liturgy

December 31, 2017  
19 Souls

### Divine Liturgy Schedule

|            |                                             |
|------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Jan. 7...  | Mother of God School<br>10 a.m.             |
| Jan. 14... | Mother of God School<br>10 a.m.             |
| Jan. 21... | Mother of God School<br>10 a.m.             |
| Jan. 28... | Our Lady's Chapel<br>(Tentative)<br>10 a.m. |

### Liturgy Propers

**Sunday After Theophany**  
**Synaxis of St. John, Glorious Prophet**  
**January 7, 2018**

**Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom**

Opening Hymn: "To Jordan's Waters"

Antiphons and Entrance Hymns for

the Sunday after Theophany (p. 316-317)

Troparion of the Resurrection — Tone 6 (p. 152)

Troparion of Theophany — Tone 1 (p. 313)

Kontakion of Theophany — Tone 4 (p. 314)

Prokiemenon of Theophany — Tone 1 (p. 317)

**Epistle: Ephesians 4:7-17**

Alleluia of Theophany — Tone 5 (p. 318)

**Gospel: Matthew 4:12-18**

Exaltation and Irmos (p. 315)

[in place of "It is truly proper..."]

Communion Hymns:

For Theophany > Titus 2:11 (p. 316)

For Sunday > Psalm 148:1 (p. 305)

**CELEBRANT: FR. LEE GROSS**

PAGE NUMBERS REFERENCE GREEN LITURGY BOOK]

## Please Remember

*"Is anyone among you sick? ...the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up."*

James 5:14-15 NKJV/OSB

### OUR MISSION COMMUNITY

- Ron Pytel.
- Robert Karam.
- Lou Shanks.
- Rosemary Chisarick.
- Doris Fejka.
- Raymond Klimkosky.

### OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

- Christine Dennis.
- Peggy Winkelmann.
- Laura Hinkle.
- Doran Coady.
- Ann Tracy.
- Travis Waters.
- Bertha Bergan.
- Arlene Kollar.
- Jamee Kruse.
- Joseph and Nancy Dillmann.
- Paul and Mary Ellen Sorensen.
- Tony Tworkoski.
- Linda Oros.
- Mike DiMarino.
- Robert Kreger.
- Robert Diethrich.
- Lucy Fontenot
- Patricia Minihane.
- Brother Joseph Comber, CFX.

### SPECIAL INTENTION

- Elizabeth Basarab.
- Sally Pekarik.
- Fr. Conan Timoney.
- Fr. Lee Gross.



## Pray for Our Community

*"Return, we beseech You, O God of hosts; Look down from heaven and see, and visit this vine and the vineyard which Your right hand has planted, and the branch that You made strong for Yourself."*

Psalm 80:14-15 NKJV/OSB



## Food Pantry

Our community places a food collection basket near the information table as you enter the gymnasium. Don't forget those who are less fortunate. Nonperishable food items, diapers, baby food, and personal care items are always in demand. The Food Pantry Program, administered by St. Martin of Tours Roman Catholic Church in Gaithersburg, supports the working poor of our area.



*"...for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited me; I was in prison and you came to Me. ...Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me."*

Matthew 25:35-36, 40 NKJV/OSB

■ **From Feast to the Great Fast** — In 2018, Pascha (Easter) falls relatively early. In fact, next Sunday for the Byzantine Church is the Sunday of Zacchaeus and marks the first Sunday of the five Sundays before the beginning of the Great Fast in preparation for the celebration of Holy Week and Pascha.

[Note: 2018 ecclesiastical calendars are now available on the information table.]

■ **Thank You from Fr. Lee** — "Words aren't sufficient to express my gratitude for your generosity and thoughtfulness over the years, and I want to say a sincere thank-you for your kindness once again this year.

Next spring will mark my 14th year of service to the Mission, and I thank God for the many faithful who have shown such dedication and commitment to the rite and to the Mission.

May God bless and keep you all in the New Year!"

■ **Food Pantry** — Remember our Mission Community's ministry to the unfortunate of our area through the local Food Pantry program, administered by St. Martin Roman Catholic Church, Gaithersburg, which is always in great need of nonperishable foods, baby food and supplies, and personal hygiene items. Hunger never takes a vacation or holiday.

■ **Carpatho-Rusyn Society Heritage Program** — Try out that new computer you received for Christmas, or even your old one, by tuning in to CarpathoRusyn Radio at <http://www.carpathorusynsociety.org/RadioPgm/> for a half-hour of Rusyn music (secular and religious) and culture. The program is broadcast Sundays from 2:30-3 p.m. on WPIT 730 AM and 96.5 FM, but can be heard anytime via the Internet.

In the Liturgy we pray "for those who serve and have served in this holy church."  
Until the happy day when we have our own temple  
(Grant it, O Lord!),  
we will need men and women  
to help with setup and takedown.

Signup sheets for **January**  
are available on the information table.

*Thank you!*

■ **National Prayer Vigil for Life** — The 2018 National Prayer Vigil for Life will take place at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on January 18 and 19.

Among the services will be Night Prayer according to the Byzantine Rite in the Crypt Church (9:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.), prayed by the Most Reverend Kurt R. Burnette, JCL, DD, Bishop of the Byzantine Eparchy of Passaic. Homilist will be Archbishop Leonard Blair, Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Hartford.

■ **"Tammies" To Return** — Pittsburgh's internationally renowned Tamburitians (Tammies) will return to our area on Saturday, February 10 (Rockville) and Sunday, February 11 (Annandale). The Tammies' mission is preserve the music, songs, and dances of Eastern Europe and neighboring folk cultures. For more details, including a promotional video highlighting last year's performances, go to [www.thetamburitians.org/](http://www.thetamburitians.org/).

■ **Smithsonian Religious Exhibit** — The National Museum of American History has opened a new exhibition, "Religion in Early America," which celebrates the free exercise of

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